

**From:** Aaron Zinman  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
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**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

I am horrified at the lack of judgement on the real methods of pursuing a monopoly that the judgement does not address. While the judgement does require middleware to be removable from Windows, it does not take into account the fact that your average user will not do that. The average user will use what is installed in their computer, which is all proprietary software. Microsoft is attempting to levy its relationship on all types of file formats, wether that be using ActiveX instead of Java, which only works in Windows, windows media formats, which barely work on the mac side and have no other ports, or Microsoft Office documents that have file format standards that can be quite difficult to import/export with 100% accuracy. On the networking side, they force horrible/insecure products with all non-documented proprietary protocols upon networks creating a nightmare for network administrators to truly create a cross-platform environment without having large amounts of "Microsoft Solutions". Now with .NET, they are going to attempt to force everyone to pay yearly licenses for software, a practice never heard of before, to access products over the web to make it seem open; however, in the end the addition of Windows-only based controls and support will force people to again use Windows.

I hope that the American justice system will actually withhold its principle values and see the modern day Standard Oil to its proper place.

Aaron Zinman  
618 Sausalito Blvd  
Sausalito, CA 94965

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